

Even more remarkable is the case of one of the *Drepanine* birds, *Viridonia sagittirostris*, which is confined to a tract of the deep forests in Hawaii a few miles square, although the surrounding forest seems to be in every respect similar.

Seven black-and-white plates fairly well illustrate the more interesting of the Hawaiian birds. As many of these birds are beautifully colored, it seems a pity that adequate illustrations in color could not have been furnished. The accounts of the Hawaiian birds, while not written for the professional ornithologist, contain many facts of interest and give an excellent birds-eye-view of the subject. The non-professional, however, for whom the accounts of the islands birds are chiefly intended, will find the treatment given by the author entirely adequate to his needs. The index and glossary to the volume have been made a special feature. They have been prepared with great care, and render the contents of the book readily accessible to every seeker for the wealth of material which it contains.—  
H. W. H.

**The B. O. U. Jubilee Supplement to the Ibis, No. 2.**<sup>1</sup>—In December, 1908, the British Ornithologists' Union, as part of the activities connected with the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary, arranged to send an expedition to Dutch New Guinea to explore the Snow Mountains, with especial consideration of its avifauna. This expedition under the leadership of Mr. Walter Goodfellow met with unforeseen obstacles and while it acquired much valuable information and many specimens, it failed to accomplish all that was hoped for. The ornithological results appeared in 'The Ibis' for 1913, pp. 76-113.

A second expedition, under Mr. A. F. R. Wollaston, who had accompanied the first one, met with complete success, reaching the highest peaks of the Snow Mountains and bringing back large collections. The present report covers both collections—representing 321 species and includes additional forms obtained by other expeditions. It contains a vast amount of information upon the relationship and status of the birds of this portion of New Guinea which could only be obtained from adequate series of specimens such as are here available. Many important facts regarding the plumage of Birds of Paradise are brought out for the first time.

As might have been expected, Bowdler-Sharpe's statement that the glossy green racket shaped tail feathers of the King Bird of Paradise are apparently derived from the curved brown ones without molt, proves to be erroneous. The green racket shaped feathers are acquired in the fourth year by a regular molt, encased in curious circular sheaths "for all the world like miniature motor-tyres." There are also numerous valuable field

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<sup>1</sup>The Ibis, Jubilee Supplement No. 2. 1915. Report on the Birds collected by the British Ornithologists' Union Expedition and the Wollaston Expedition in Dutch New Guinea. By W. R. Ogilvie-Grant. pp. i-xx + 1-336, 8 plates and two maps. December, 1915.

notes by the members of the expedition which add much to our knowledge of the habits of the birds of this wonderful country.

Many new forms have already been described from these collections, but others, recognized as the critical study of the material progressed, are here described for the first time. These are: *Ciccinnurus regius claudii* (p. 16); *Lophorhina superba feminina* (p. 27); *Ptilotis salvadorii utakwensis* (p. 71); *Pachycephala soror klossi* (p. 88); *Lalage karu microrhyncha* (p. 118); and *Pseudogerygone conspicillata mimikae* (p. 168). New forms described from other parts of New Guinea or elsewhere are as follows: *Diphyllodes rothschildi* (p. 24), Salawatti; *Pachycephala soror bartoni* (p. 88), British New Guinea; *Rhipidura harterti* (p. 149), Rendova, Solomon Isls.; *Poecilodryas brachyura dumasi* (p. 162), Northern New Guinea; *Microcca griseiceps bartoni* (p. 174), Mt. Manacao; *Alcyon richardsi aolae* (p. 206), Aola, Guadalcanar, Solomon Isls.; *A. r. bougainvillei* (p. 207), Bougainville, Solomon Isls.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant has evidently spared no pains to make his report as full and accurate as possible and he has succeeded in producing one of the most valuable contributions to the ornithology of New Guinea that has yet appeared. With so many points of excellence to its credit it is regrettable to find the old custom perpetuated of designating two types — a male and female. In case these should eventually prove to belong to different forms — and such things have occurred! — we immediately have an opportunity for a nomenclatural entanglement, which would have been entirely avoided by designating but one type specimen. — W. S.

**Chapin on New Birds from the Belgian Congo.**<sup>1</sup>—Continuing the critical study of the collection obtained by the American Museum Congo Expedition, Mr. Chapin describes four new species. These are a Starling, *Stilbopsar leucothorax* (p. 23), from the Ituri District; *Paludipasser uelensis* (p. 24), from the Upper Uele District, a curious Weaver Finch, apparently congeneric with Mr. S. A. Neave's *Paludipasser locustella* from Lake Bangweolo; another Weaver, *Malimbus flavipes*, (p. 27), Ituri District and a warbler, *Bradypterus carpalis* (p. 27), from the papyrus swamps of the Upper Uele. Drawings of head and feet accompany the excellent descriptions and a few remarks on habits are added, forming a welcome relief from the all too prevalent meagre diagnoses which characterize many present day systematic papers. — W. S.

**Oberholser on Races of the Crested Tern.**<sup>2</sup>—This is another of Mr. Oberholser's careful monographs, treating of a group that has recently

<sup>1</sup> Four New Birds from the Belgian Congo. By James P. Chapin. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., XXXV, Art. III, pp. 23-29. February 21, 1916.

<sup>2</sup> A Synopsis of the Races of the Crested Tern, *Thalasseus bergii* (Lichtenstein). By Harry C. Oberholser. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. 49, pp. 515-526, Plate 66. December 23, 1915.